



Welcome to Christ Church! We are glad you are worshiping with us.

Be thoughtful, be silent, be reverent; for this is the House of God.

Before the service, speak to the Lord; during the service, let the Lord speak to you; after the service, speak to one another.

A Service of Music and Meditation for Good Friday *Enter in Silence*

Prelude

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded, Arr. Molly Ijames

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Introduction and Welcome

Call to Worship and Opening Prayer *(Please stand)*

Presider: We gather tonight before the cross in sorrow and in shame.
Presider: We look for forgiveness, strength and mercy - though we know we deserve none.
People: **We gather to remember how it was the day that our Saviour died -
to remember, to mourn, and to try to understand what happened that day,
the day that Jesus showed the depth of his love for us by suffering and dying in our place.**

Presider: Let us pray --
Father, our hearts are heavy as we gather in the name of our crucified Lord.

People: **He died for our sins.**
Presider: We watch with horror as we see him hanging on the cross
People: **He died for our sins.**
Presider: We see the evil in the world around him.
People: **He died for our sins.**
Presider: We, too, Father, have denied our Lord.
People: **He died for our sins.**
Presider: We, too, have betrayed our Lord.
People: **He died for our sins.**
Forgive us, Lord, and love us still. Amen. (Please be seated)

First Reading, Matthew 27:15-36

Eric Pelander

Now at the festival the governor was accustomed to release a prisoner for the crowd, anyone whom they wanted. At that time they had a notorious prisoner, called Jesus Barabbas. So after they had gathered, Pilate said to them, "Whom do you want me to release for you, Jesus Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?" For he realized that it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over.

While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, "Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him." Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus killed. The governor again said to them, "Which of the two do you want me to release for you?" And they said, "Barabbas."

Pilate said to them, "Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?" All of them said, "Let him be crucified!" Then he asked, "Why, what evil has he done?"

But they shouted all the more, "Let him be crucified!" So when Pilate saw that he could do nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves." Then the people as a whole answered, "His blood be on us and on our children!" So he released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified. Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole cohort around him. They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on his head. They put a reed in his right hand and knelt before him and mocked him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" They spat on him, and took the reed and struck him on the head. After mocking him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon; they compelled this man to carry his cross. And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull) they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots; then they sat down there and kept watch over him.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Solo

What Wondrous Love Is This Inspired by Grieg's "Air" from Holberg Suite, Arr. Faye Lopez

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First Reflection, Jesus Rides into Jerusalem

Warren Klug

Were you there when they crucified my Lord? Were you there that Passover week? No? Well let me tell you about it. I, Peter, was with Jesus and my brother disciples and the women disciples who came up with us to Jerusalem for the Feast. It was a beautiful morning. We were up early at dawn to break our fast and prepare for the walk into Jerusalem. We would go to the city for the day and return to Mary and Martha and Lazarus in Bethany at night. It was only about a mile and a half, maybe two to walk up to Jerusalem's gates. Jesus, as was his custom, was up before us and off by himself to pray. When he returned to us he asked if we had eaten. Then he sent a couple of us off to go ahead to Bethphage at the foot of the Mount of Olives. He told them: "Go into the village and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.'" And it was so. They brought the colt back. I was starting to get a little wound up and excited. This was truly different. Jesus was going to ride up to Jerusalem like a nobleman on an ass, the symbol of peace. We spread our garments on the colt's back and started walking. People began to tear off palm branches and spread them on the ground before us. Shouts rang out like they do at all the Feasts. "Hosanna! Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord." Then they began to sing and shout: "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord. Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heaven." And "Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord -- the King of Israel." It was much, much later when I recalled the words of the prophet Zechariah: "Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud O daughter Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey." It was written of him in the Book and it happened. I was there.

First Candle Extinguished

Solo

My Savior's Love, Arr. Molly Ijames

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Second Reflection, The Foot Washing

Eric Pelander

I remember the first day of Unleavened Bread, the day on which we had to sacrifice the Passover lamb. Jesus sent John and me to prepare the meal. We made ready the upper room where Jesus had said we would find it and checked every corner to make sure no leaven was present. Jesus took his outer robe and tied a towel around his waist and poured water from the pitcher into a basin. He went over to Philip, knelt down and washed his feet. Jesus turned to Andrew and did the same. When he got to me, I stopped him and said, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" He looked at me and said, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later on you will understand." "You will never wash my feet," I almost shouted. Jesus said, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." The words were out before I could think. "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" Jesus called me back down to earth. "One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are all clean, though not all of you." Jesus picked up first one foot and then the other and washed away the dust and the grime they had picked up that day. Washed them like a servant. When he was done he explained to us why he had become our servant. "I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them." The King of heaven kneeling at the feet of his friends, washing their feet. I was there.

Second Candle Extinguished

Solo

Crucifixus from Messa Di Gloria, Giacomo Puccini

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Third Reflection, The Last Supper

Warren Klug

When Jesus was finished washing our feet, we set the table and sat. We sang one of the Passover hymns from the Hillel: "Praise the Lord! Praise, O servants of the Lord; praise the name of the Lord. Blessed be the name of the Lord from this time on and forevermore. From the rising of the sun to its setting the name of the Lord is to be praised." We remembered Israel in Egypt and the night the Angel of the Lord passed over the firstborn of the Children of Israel. We rejoiced in God who 'with his strong hand brought us out of Egypt' as we recounted the story in answer to the question, "Why is this night different from every other night?" Then, we became quiet and waited. Jesus said, "Very truly I tell you, one of you will betray me." John asked Jesus what he meant. Jesus said, "It is the one to whom I give this piece of bread that has been dipped in the cup." Jesus passed the bread to Judas. Jesus leaned over and spoke to him and he left. Everyone but John and Jesus and I resumed eating and talking. I didn't know what to think about this. Jesus picked up one of the flat bread, and he blessed it. He broke it, handed it to us, and said, "Take, eat. This is my body, which is broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me." Afterwards in the same manner he took the cup in front of him and he gave thanks and said: "This is my blood of the new covenant which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me" as he passed the cup. We all drank from the cup. I heard Jesus saying something about not drinking of the vine again until he drank it anew in the Kingdom of God. I know. I was there.

Third Candle Extinguished

Solo

The Lord's Prayer, Albert Hay Malotte

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Fourth Reflection, Garden of Gethsemane

Eric Pelander

When we arrived at our usual place Jesus indicated that he was going to pray. He said to all of us: "Pray that you may not come into the time of trial. Sit here while I pray." He motioned to James and John and myself to go on further into the garden with him. Jesus said, "I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here and keep awake." He threw himself on the ground. Jesus said "Abba, Father, for you all things are possible. If you are willing, remove this cup from me, yet, not my will but yours be done." Suddenly, I was drowsy and fell asleep. Jesus stood over me and said, "Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep awake one hour? Keep awake and pray that you may not come to the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing Simon, but the flesh is weak." He went away again and prayed as before. I started to pray myself and again I fell asleep. Jesus woke us up. I was ashamed. He went back to praying. We fell asleep again. At last he came again and he said to us, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Enough! The hour is come; the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand." While Jesus was speaking we could hear the commotion of a crowd coming towards us. There was Judas with a bunch of men carrying clubs and swords and the officers of the temple police and the elders. Judas called out: "Rabbi!" and went up to Jesus and kissed him. The men laid hold of Jesus to arrest him. I drew the sword and sliced off the right ear of the high priest's slave. Jesus told me to put my sword away. "Am I not to drink the cup that the father has given me?" They bound Jesus with cords and the menace of the crowd grew. All of us began to slip away as quickly as we could. I withdrew far enough for safety and to watch. As they began to move away, I followed to see where they were taking Jesus. I was there.

Fourth Candle Extinguished

Solo

There Is A Balm in Gilead, Arr. Jeremy L. Strong

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Fifth Reflection, Peter Denies Jesus Three Times

Warren Klug

They took Jesus to the high priest's house. I managed to get in to the courtyard and I went and sat, as nonchalantly as I could, with the guards as they warmed themselves around the fire. One of the servant girls began to stare at me and came over and she said, "You also were with Jesus, the man from Nazareth." I said, "I do not know or understand what you are talking about." I walked out to the forecourt to stay out of the way. The cock crowed. After a while another servant-girl came along and she began to tell the rest standing around there that "This man was with Jesus of Nazareth." I said, "I do not know the man." A few moments later one of the bystanders came up to me and said, "Certainly you are one of them, for your accent betrays you. You are a Galilean." I swore an oath that I did not know this man! As I finished speaking the cock crowed again. I remembered what Jesus had said - that before the cock crowed twice I would deny him three times, bitterly with bile in my throat heaving great pangs of agony as I ran. I was there.

Fifth Candle Extinguished

Solo

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross, Arr. Dan Forrest

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Sixth Reflection, Jesus is Crucified

Eric Pelander

When I got to the high priest's house, someone told me that they had taken him to Pilate, the Roman governor. Nearing the Governor's palace I heard the crowd. I heard the shouts: "Crucify him! Crucify him!" As I jostled through the crowd I could see Jesus standing beside the governor. Jesus had a crown of thorns on his head. Blood on his face. Pilate raised his hands and said, "I give you my decision. Barabbas goes free. This King of the Jews, this Jesus, is to be crucified." The crowd cheered. My heart sank. Then I heard the shouts of the Roman soldiers making a way through the crowds. I watched as I saw the wood of a cross come towards me. Then I saw my Lord slumped under its weight not six feet from me. My Lord was going to die. Were you there when they crucified my Lord? Were you there? Sometimes, it causes me to tremble. I know. I was there.

Sixth Candle Extinguished

Solo

Were You There, Spiritual

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Second Reading, Mark 15:25-37

Warren Klug

It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. The inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!" In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe." Those who were crucified with him also taunted him. When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "Listen, he is calling for Elijah." And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down." Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Seventh Candle Extinguished

Solo

Arise My Soul, Arr. Dan Forrest

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Third Reading, John 19:38-42

Eric Pelander

After these things, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, though a secret one because of his fear of the Jews, asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. Pilate gave him permission; so he came and removed his body. Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews. Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Closing Prayers (*kneeling*)

Presider: Open our hearts to your truth, O Lord, and help us understand who you are and what you have done for us. Help us remember your words so we can act on them; and give us the courage to walk as you did in humble obedience to the Father's will. **AMEN.**

All: **Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend to the sick, give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, comfort the afflicted, and shield the joyous – all for your love's sake, Lord Jesus. AMEN.**

(Please stand)

Presider: Abide with us, Lord Jesus,

All: **for the night is at hand and the day is now past.**

Presider: As the night watch looks for the morning,

All: **so do we look for you, O Christ.**

Presider: May the Lord bless us and keep us. May the Lord make his face shine upon us and be gracious to us. May the Lord lift up his countenance upon us and give us peace. **Amen.**

Solo

Alas, and Did My Savior Bleed, Arr. Dan Forrest

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***Please depart in silence or remain behind to pray.
Join us in person and online on Easter Sunday, 10:00am***



The Crucifixion and the Mourning of Christ Giotto

Serving Today

Presider: Warren Klug

Director of Music: Molly Noel

Musicians: Scott MacCracken, voice and Roberto Arundale, cello

Usher / Greeter: Kathy Klug

Readers: Eric Pelander and Warren Klug



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